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(b) the number of applications pending on that date for service connections for agricultural purposes; and

(c) how many service connections have been given after installation of this sub-station?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) 16th December 1964.

(b) & (c) There were no applications pending. I wish to add that subsequent to 16th December 1964, eight applications have been received, and a scheme is being worked out.

Demurrage for not taking delivery of foodgrains

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member Sri M. Sankaralingam Pillai is not in his seat. So, question No. 77 and the answer thereto will be printed in the Official Report of the proceedings.

* 77 Q.—SRI M. SANKARALINGAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) the amount paid by the Government by way of demurrage for not taking delivery of the foodgrains intended for Kanyakumari district after food rationing was introduced; and

(b) the reasons for the loss?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (a) An amount of Rs. 9,784.60 has been paid towards demurrage and wharfage due to delay in lifting the stocks intended for Kanyakumari district.

(b) As the whole of the Kanyakumari district is not connected by rail, the stocks had to be transported by lorries. Lorries were not readily available as they were engaged by the Police for maintenance of law and order due to widespread disturbances in connection with the anti-Hindi agitation. Further, the Railway authorities insisted on lifting the stocks then and there from the goodsyard, as, according to them, the stocks had to be cleared from the wagons within five hours after the arrival of the wagons.

Government buildings

* 78 Q.—SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any order restraining the inscription of the names of the contractors, who constructed the buildings, in tablets installed in Government buildings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have examined the question of standardising of tablets to be unveiled on the occasion like foundation stone-laying ceremony, etc., and have decided that there shall be two tablets for each completed project work or building work, viz.,

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(i) " The Opening Function Tablet " commemorating the opening function; and

(ii) " The Information Tablet " containing particulars regarding the total cost of the scheme, the date of commencement and completion of the work and the names of the Engineers associated with it.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Is the name of the contractor forbidden to be inscribed on the tablet?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : The present position is that only the names of the engineers will be inscribed on it.

Prices of rice and paddy

* 79 *Q.*—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) the basis on which the price for rice and paddy is fixed by the Government;

(*b*) whether the prices so fixed vary from district to distrct; and

(*c*) whether any incidental charges are allowed for transport, milling and other expenses when paddy is converted into **rice?**

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (*a*) The maximum prices fixed by the Government of India for Kattai Samba, a variety of paddy which is mostly consumed in Madras State, is Rs. 39.50 per quintal. Based on this, the prices of other varieties of paddy have been worked out and this Government have notified the maximum prices of paddy and the maximum wholesale and retail prices of the different varieties of rice in each district for 1964–65 season.

(*b*) The attention of the Member is invited to G.O. No. 2858, Food and Agriculture, dated 17th October 1964 in which full details of the maximum wholesale prices of paddy and maximum wholesale and retail prices of rice in each district have been notified.

(*c*) Yes. The following incidental charges are normally allowed for transport, milling and other expenses when paddy is converted into rice :—

Handling charges per quintal—Rs. 0.50.

Milling charge per quintal—Rs. 1.50.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Are the Government aware that they have fixed prices for different varieties of paddy and that it has caused confusion to the producer as well as to the buyer and created so many complications? What is the reason for fixing prices for so many varieties?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : Because there are so many varieties available in the State. But these varieties are being categorised into finer, medium, and coarser varieties. Most of the paddy is grouped into these three different categories.